

PATENT SPECIFICATION



Application Date: Aug. 19, 1921. No. 21,985/21.

187,078

Complete Left: June 17, 1922.

Complete Accepted: Oct. 19, 1922.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Small Arms.

I, HARRY GREENER, of St. Marys Square, Birmingham, a subject of the King of Great Britain, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention has reference to guns and rifles having actions of the Martini falling-block type, and consists in the hereinafter-described improvements in such small arms.

To enable the wooden fore-end to serve as a protector or guard for protecting a user's hand from contact with a hot barrel, the said fore-end is made to partially surround the barrel. That is to say, the groove wherein the barrel seats is made of a depth exceeding half the external diameter of the barrel and the wood that extends above the barrel centre-line fits closely over the upper part of the barrel, leaving only a comparatively small top sector of the latter exposed above the fore-end. This formation necessitates the fore-end being slidden end-wise over the barrel after the latter has been assembled on the action-body.

The barrel is held in the fore-end by a single barrel-band which is located or positioned by forming an external recess

or channel round the fore-end wood; this recess being of such depth that will prevent displacement of the barrel-band when the latter is contracted round the barrel and fore end by the usual screw fastening.

To provide for the connection of the fore-end to the action body, the rear face of the fore end is provided with a stud or plug of substantial diameter and a recess or socket of corresponding dimensions is machined in the front face of the action body for the reception of the said stud. A transverse hole is drilled through the plug and a like hole through the action body: the respective dispositions of the said holes being such that when the fore-end stud is inserted into the body-socket, the transverse holes will register and permit of the insertion there-through of a pin which keys the two socketting parts together. This key-pin is preferably screwed into the action body so that it can be readily removed when stripping or dis-assembling the arm.

Dated the 18th day of August, 1921.

ARTHUR SADLER,
Chartered Patent Agent,
44, Waterloo Street, Birmingham,
Agent for the Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or relating to Small Arms.

I, HARRY GREENER, of St. Marys Square, Birmingham, a subject of the King of Great Britain, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

To enable the wooden fore-end of a rifle or gun to serve as a protector or guard for protecting a user's hand from contact

with a hot barrel, it is proposed, according to the present invention, to make the said fore-end partially surround the barrel. That is to say, the groove wherein the barrel seats is made of a depth exceeding half the external diameter of the barrel and the wood that extends above the barrel centre line fits closely around a portion of the upper part of the barrel, leaving only a compara-

RECT AVALI ARIF COPY

tively small top sector of the latter exposed above the fore-end. This formation necessitates the fore-end being slid end-wise over the barrel after the latter has been assembled on the action-body.

The barrel is held in the fore-end by a single barrel-band which is located or positioned by forming an eternal recess or channel around the fore-end wood; this recess being of such depth that will prevent displacement of the barrel-band when the latter is contracted round the barrel and fore-end by the usual screw fastening.

To provide for the connection of the fore-end to the action body, the rear face of the former is provided with a stud or plug of substantial diameter and a recess or socket of corresponding dimensions is machined in the front face of the action body for the reception of the said stud. A transverse hole is drilled through the plug and a like hold through the action body; the respective dispositions of the said holes being such that when the fore-end stud is inserted into the body-socket, the transverse holes will register and permit of the insertion therethrough of a pin which keys the two socketting parts together. This key-pin is preferably screwed into the action body so that it can be readily removed when stripping or dis-assembling the arm.

The accompanying drawing shows the application of my invention to a gun or rifle having an action of the Martini type. In this drawing

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section showing the fastening for securing the rear end of the fore-end to the action body.

Figure 2 is an elevation and

Figure 3 a transverse sectional view (on a larger scale than Figure 1) showing the form in which the fore-end is made so that the same may also serve as a hand-guard.

Figure 4 shows the rear fore-end fastening, partly in plan and partly in horizontal section.

The same letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

a is the barrel, *b* the action-body and *c* the fore-end or combined fore-end and hand-guard; the sectional shape of the part *c* being shown in Figure 3, from which it will be seen that the groove or barrel seating embraces more than half of the section of the barrel so that the wood on opposite sides of the fore-end extends a distance above the barrel-centre line to give the desired protection for the user's hands.

The fore-end is slid endwise onto the barrel after the latter has been fixed to the action body, and a barrel-band as already stated is used to secure the two parts *a*, *c*, to one another at the muzzle end, whilst the rear fastening which detachably connects the fore-end to the front face of the body comprises the plug *d* which may be fixed in the fore-end wood in the manner shown in Figures 1 and 4 and is engaged or inserted endwise, at the completion of the sliding of the fore-end onto the barrel, with the socket *e* in the action face; the plug being secured in such engagement by a transverse pin or key *f* that is driven through holes *g*, *h*, that are drilled transversely through the plug and body and register with one another when the said plug is pushed home into the socket *e*.

Or alternatively, the plug member of the socketting connection may be retained by a pin or keep screw that is inserted from the bottom of the action-body and has suitable engagement with the fore-end plug. Or the plug may be formed on the action body and the socket for its reception bored in the rear face of the fore-end wood; a cross-pin, keep-screw or other equivalent means (preferably removable to facilitate dis-assembly of the fore-end) being used to retain the socketting parts in their normal engagement.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A fore-end for small arms in which the groove wherein the barrel seats is made of a depth exceeding half the external diameter of the barrel and the wood that extends above the barrel centre line fits closely around a portion of the upper part of the barrel, for the purpose herein referred to.

2. Means for fastening a fore-end as claimed in Claim 1, to the front of an action body after the said fore-end has been slid along the barrel; such means comprising a plug projecting from the face of the one part, a corresponding socket in the other part, and a pin, key, keep-screw, or equivalent means for securing the plug in engagement with the socket, substantially as described.

Dated this 16th day of June, 1922.

ARTHUR SADLER,
Chartered Patent Agent,
44, Waterloo Street, Birmingham,
Agent for the Applicant.

Fig. 1

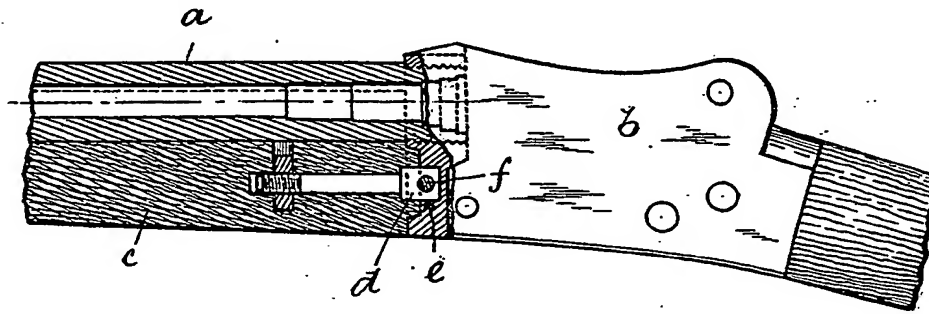


Fig. 2.

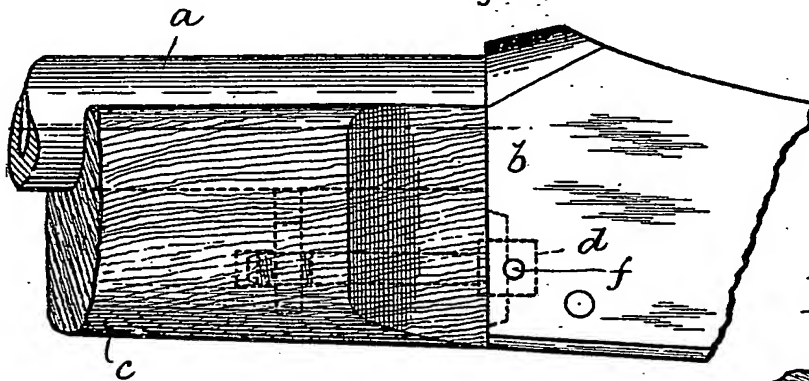


Fig. 4.

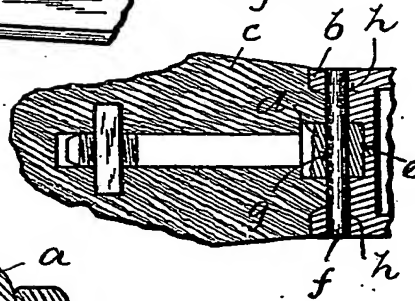
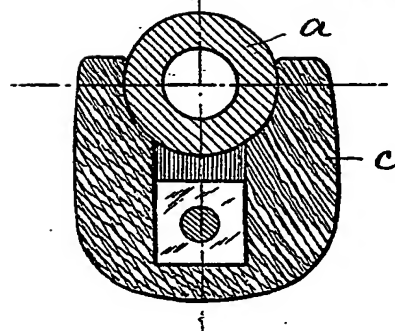


Fig. 3.



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Maitby & Sons, Photo-Litho.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO,